

Wife Killed Ruth Cruger, Cocchi Swears

He Hid Body to Protect Her, Bicycle Man Tells Court at Bologna, Italy, Where He Is on Trial

Demonstrates How Girl Was Murdered

Struck Over Head With Machine Tool in His Shop, He Declares

BOLOGNA, June 24 (By The Associated Press).—Fighting for acquittal, Alfred Cocchi, charged with the murder of Ruth Cruger in New York in 1917, presented to the court and jury a vivid description of the killing of the girl. He contended that his wife was the guilty one. He explained that he had made his former confession for her protection, but declared that, now she had abandoned him, he would tell the truth.

Cocchi stood in a large open space in Bologna's ancient, courtroom of Asinara before the bench, demonstrating for judge and jury, by means of lawyers, clerks and desks, how the crime was committed. He walked from one end of the space to the other, showing with his hands the various places in his bicycle shop. Though extremely nervous, he poured out his account without the slightest hesitation, speaking fast throughout the entire presentation of his case, which lasted for forty-five minutes.

He Hid the Body
Cocchi related the incident in his shop, and then came to the denial that he was guilty. He said:

"I was talking to the signorina. My wife struck her on the back of the head with one of my tools. It was not I who struck the fatal blow; it was my wife. I hid the body to protect her."

To this Signor Bagnoli, president of the court, retorted:
"But the American tribunals have honored your wife and found her innocent."

"It is impossible for any one to call an innocent. Nobody could have an opinion on the affair unless he were there to see it," Cocchi answered.

The president then declared that Cocchi had not been moved by altruistic motives in his actions, and said:

"Cocchi, if you wanted to do the right thing, you would have protected the children who bear your name. You were their breadwinner. If your wife was guilty you might have let her suffer and protected your children."

Story of the Crime
On February 13, 1917, Ruth Cruger, eighteen years old, entered the motorcycle repair shop of Alfred Cocchi, 542 West 127th Street, and vanished. For months her parents, her friends and she were hunted for her in vain. In June of that year, Cocchi having disappeared, Mrs. Grace Humiston, a lawyer, obtained permission to dig in the cellar of the shop.

The girl had been strangled by the right temple. Cocchi, it was discovered, had fled to Italy, leaving his wife in charge of the shop. She sold the shop thereafter and later appeared before the grand jury that indicted him for murder.

Finally Cocchi was discovered in Bologna by the Italian police. He was arrested and confessed the crime, but was not extradited, since the Italian law holds that an Italian subject apprehended in Italy for a crime committed on foreign soil must be tried by the Italian courts.

Cocchi's accusation of his wife overthrows all his former confession. Until now he has never mentioned her being implicated in the case in any way whatever.

Motorists Are Told They Kill Too Many

Deaths in New York in 1918 Increased 30 Per Cent, As Secretary of State

AUBURN, N. Y., June 24.—"Automobile accidents have taken the first place among administrative problems of that office," said Secretary of State Rogers to-day before the New York State Auto Convention. He said:

"The accident curve has been going up entirely too fast. More people were killed on the streets of New York last year than were down on the Lusitania, ever-increasing toll of deaths on our highways must stop. I regard the human element as more important than property rights."

There were 1,180 deaths due to automobiles in New York State in 1918. There were 1,369 deaths in New York State in 1917. There were 1,781 injuries for the two months of January and February. The man at the wheel of an automobile has a big responsibility, and I appeal to you as patriotic citizens to do your part."

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Little Louder, Boys. Guess They Didn't Hear You

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Hamby, Found Guilty by Jury, To Die in Chair

Worse Than Jesse James, Says Justice Fawcett of Brooklyn Robber and Murderer After Conviction

Gordon Fawcett Hamby leaned forward from his much guarded place in the criminal part of the Supreme Court in Brooklyn yesterday and seized the coat of arms of Francis X. McCaffry, his attorney, as the latter rose to cross question the state's star witness, George McCullough.

"Don't cross-examine him," Hamby said. "Don't cross-examine anybody. It only delays things."

Then he relaxed in his seat and sat complacently smiling for almost six hours as the prosecution, unopposed, pushed its way to a conviction. The jury filed out of the box at 3:08 p. m. and returned at 3:55—after an absence of forty-seven minutes—with the verdict expected by every one in the courtroom, finding Hamby guilty of killing De Witt C. Peal, paying teller of the East Brooklyn Savings Bank, during a \$13,000 robbery on December 13 last. The verdict means the electric chair for the young robber and murderer.

Lawyer Obeys His Client
Mr. McCaffry obeyed the instructions of his client. He made a single objection throughout the proceedings, asking that the District Attorney be required to prove that he did not obtain Hamby's alleged confession under duress. When it was clearly shown by the nature of the questions and answers through which the confession was developed that the defendant had voluntarily committed himself, Justice Fawcett overruled the objection.

As witness after witness was called by the state and allowed to leave the stand without cross-examination large beads of perspiration popped out on Mr. McCaffry's brow. He has been practicing law for almost thirty years, he explained, spending twelve of them as Assistant District Attorney.

"And to sit there," he groaned after the trial, "tongue tied, being compelled to overlook juicy little inaccuracies, with thirty years of training yelling to me to do something to defend my client—it was a terrible ordeal."

Disappoints Crowd of Women
Because of the absence of any semblance of drama the trial consumed only fourteen hours. District Attorney Lewis, who personally spun a powerful web of testimony about Hamby, the most important part being contributed by Hamby himself, expressed his pleasure over the verdict and the short time required in reaching it. His pleasure was second only to that of Hamby.

The prisoner proved a keen disappointment to the thirty-five women in the courtroom when the verdict was brought in. They leaned over eagerly, expecting a display of bravado or the first sign of weakening. But Hamby neither quailed nor blustered. He just held to his smile and shifted his gaze back to the grassy stretch before the courtroom window, from which he had taken his eyes to survey the foreman of the jury.

Hamby's smile stood the test of a vitriolic onslaught by District Attorney Lewis in his summing up. His immobility was further tested when

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Woman Acquitted Of Baby's Death

Jury at Newark Accepts Mrs. Hanglin's Story of Burning of Orphan

Mrs. Cona Hanglin, of Newark, was acquitted in the Court of Oyer and Terminer in that city last night of causing the death of three-months-old Paul Eadorn, who was given into her care after his mother had died. The jury was out three and a half hours.

Mrs. Hanglin almost collapsed when she heard the verdict. When she regained her composure she hugged and kissed her husband and children. Then she went to the jail, gathered up her few belongings and started for home.

Before the judge delivered his charge Assistant Prosecutor Bernhard agreed that the state would not ask for any greater verdict than manslaughter, as no premeditation had been shown.

"When I came back and entered the kitchen I saw smoke. The baby's head and shoulders were in the fireplace. I put the fire out with water and covered the baby with sweet oil. The baby was asleep at 8 o'clock, and I put him in the go-cart in front of the fire to get the heat. I then went out to a store to buy some provisions."

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After trying for half an hour to revive the child, she said, she decided that it was dead. Then, seized with panic, she buried the body in the cellar.

Sympathetic Strike at Winnipeg Is Called Off

WINNIPEG, Man., June 24.—The general sympathetic strike which has been in progress here since May 15, was called off to-night.

Mooney Warns Radicals Not to Set Bombs July 4

SAN FRANCISCO, June 24.—In a statement dictated by Thomas J. Mooney, serving a sentence of life imprisonment for murder in connection with the San Francisco dynamite explosion, he warned against committing any bomb explosions on July 4, as "they would not benefit my cause, but hurt it beyond measure."

Mooney issued the statement because of reports that there might be explosions.

Gorky Calling to the Soul of Russia

A series of piercing editorials translated from the novelist's own newspaper in Petrograd.

To-day: on the editorial page

"The Sick Queen"

Right to Store Liquor in Home Kept in Bill

House Committee Sustains Provision in Enforcement Measure Legalizing Citizen's Private Supply

WASHINGTON, June 24.—A man's right to store liquor in his home for the long dry period after July 1 stood up to-day against an attack on that provision of the prohibition enforcement bill before the House Judiciary Committee.

Near the end of an all-day session the committee voted down an amendment which would have made it unlawful for a citizen to have liquor in his possession, struck out a section which would have prevented "use" by a citizen of liquor in his private dwelling, and decided that in the matter of general enforcement there would be no difference between war-time and constitutional prohibition.

Even with this and other changes the bill as it will be reported out to-morrow or Thursday is considered as all-embracing. So drastic are its provisions, members of the committee said, that while a man may put a keg of beer in his cellar he may be convicted and fined if, for instance, he wears a watch fob on which there is a picture of the keg as an advertisement.

Fear to Arouse Hostility
In a general consideration of the measure the committee made a number of minor changes, but the principal fight was over the question of the right of home storage for personal use. Representative Morgan, Republican of Oklahoma, endeavored to have stricken out the section reading that "it shall not be unlawful to possess liquor in one's private dwelling while the same is occupied and used by him only as his dwelling."

Ardent prohibitionists on the committee voted against the Morgan proposal for the reason, they said, that nothing was to be gained by enacting a law so drastic as to arouse the hostility of people who rejoiced that the day of the saloon had ended.

The section now stands: "That no person shall on or after the date when the Eighteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States goes into effect, nor while the war prohibition act shall be in force, manufacture, sell, barter, give away, transport, import, export, deliver, furnish, receive or possess any intoxicating liquor except as authorized in this act, and all the provisions of this act shall be literally construed to the end that intoxicating liquor as a beverage may be prohibited. Liquor for non-beverage purposes may be purchased, sold, transported, and used as herein provided."

Every person legally permitted to have liquor is required to report to the proper authorities within ten days after the passage of the act, and possession after that date "by any person not legally permitted under this title to possess liquors" shall be regarded as evidence that it is kept for purposes of sale. This, however, does not apply to home stocks.

The bill's definition of what is intoxicating liquor—any beverage or product containing more than one-half of 1 per cent alcohol—was retained.

Stage All Set for Foe to Sign; France Demands Germany Pay; In Full for Scuttling of Fleet

Enemy Violated the Armistice and Peace Treaty, Says Minister of Marine

'Big 3' Moves To Fix Blame

Expert Committee Is Named to Decide if the Sinking Broke the Enemy's Pledge

PARIS, June 24 (By The Associated Press).—France has decided to require complete reparation from Germany for the sinking of the German warships at Scapa Flow. This announcement was made by M. Leygues, Minister of Marine, to the Naval Committee of the Chamber of Deputies this afternoon. He declared that the act of the Germans violated both the armistice and the peace treaty.

Viscount Gustave de Kerguezec, member of the Naval Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, told the Budget Committee of the Chamber that he had warned the French Ministry of Marine previously that the German fleet interned in Scapa Flow was not being watched with sufficient care.

Newspaper comment, in some cases, shows much bitterness over the acts of those whom the "Figaro" calls "a perjured race with no respect for their plighted word."

Some criticism is directed at the British Admiralty, the "Journal" saying: "No article in the armistice forbade the maintenance of British guards aboard the German ships."

"L'oeuvre" says the fate of the German ships was the result of the Premier Lloyd George and Sir Robert Cecil will be just as much responsible that day as are now the authorities at Scapa Flow."

The council of three of the peace conference has referred the question of the sinking of the ships to a commission of experts, which will determine if the armistice provisions were violated.

Failed Our Allies England Now Feels

View That Scuttling of Ships Is "Jolly Good Riddance" Is Dropped

PARIS, June 24.—A sense of responsibility has begun to settle upon the British nation over the scuttling of the German fleet at Scapa Flow.

At first England took the attitude that the sinking of the enemy ships was "a jolly good thing, and, after all, just what we wanted to do with them."

But under the lash of criticism, largely from the French press, this country is beginning to realize that its position as guardian of a definite responsibility to the Allies for their loss.

Besides the strong comment in the Paris newspapers there is the frank statement by Commander Bellairs, who says: "We were acting as the mandatories of the Allies and we have failed disastrously. The responsibility lies with the Admiralty."

Walter Long, speaking for the Admiralty in the House of Commons this afternoon in defence of these charges of responsibility, said:

"It was impossible for the government to take precautions to prevent such an occurrence under the terms of the armistice under which the German ships were interned."

Asks Part Wilson Took
Mr. Bottomley asked: "Isn't it true that Premier Lloyd George endeavored and made every effort to have the ships scuttled and the German government, instead of due to the insistence of President Wilson?"

There was no answer to the question from the representative of the Admiralty.

An investigation with the object of fixing the blame is already under way. The ships were in charge of Sir Charles Madden, but he is one of those who strongly urged that the ships should have been surrendered in the first place.

To-night 1,800 officers and men of the German crews are on their way to internment camps, but a large number of those who made for the shore when the ships began to sink are still at large. The loss of life through drowning is expected to be high.

There is still some uncertainty whether the scuttling had been planned solely by Admiral Reuter and the crews or whether it was arranged with the consent of the German government. The Admiralty is holding to the former view, despite the reports that other German ships had been sunk in their

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"Our Great Moment," Says Clemenceau

PARIS, June 24.—"We have waited forty-nine years for this moment," exclaimed Premier Clemenceau, as he opened the fateful dispatch announcing that Germany would sign the treaty, at the meeting of the council of three yesterday afternoon.

"For forty-nine years," he continued, "the mailed fist of the reitire (German trooper) who has governed Germany has menaced the world. Whether the man's name was Bismarck or William II, it was still the same reitire of the Middle Ages, surrounded by soldiery and drunk with pride."

"Be careful; keep your powder dry. Be careful. Remind the world that it is living on a barrel of that powder."

"This reitire's dogma was that might is right, that a state's only obligation is its own interest, that treaties do not exist when they clash with the interest of a state and get rich by any means. We know from witnesses who were at the side of William II that when he learned of the Sarajevo tragedy, he who posed as a keeper of the peace, cried:

"The hour has struck. Now we shall see what an army is!"

This story of how the French Premier received the news was told by Etienne Clementel, former Minister of Commerce and Agriculture, last night.

President Sails For Home on Friday Night

Arrangements Are Made to Leave Immediately After the Treaty Is Signed; Day To Be Made Holiday

Wilson's Private Seal Ready to Sign Treaty

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Belief that President Wilson would at once submit the Root reservations to the council of the League of Nations itself and abide by the decision of the council as to whether the reservations are binding or not is disturbing many Senators who otherwise would be wholeheartedly in favor of adopting the Root plan.

Senator Knox pointed out to-day a slight change in the Root reservations resolution, which he thinks would entirely meet Senator Fall's objections and those of some other Senators who are for the stipulation that President Wilson would at once submit the reservations to the league council.

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Wilson May Put Root Plan Up to League

Belief Grows Among Senators He Will Ask Ruling by Council as to Whether Reservations Are Binding

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Acceptance of Peace Friday Will Be a Simple Ceremony, as Wilson Wished

Premier Bauer Talks Revenge

Hopes Terms Will React on Framers; Mueller Heads New Berlin Delegation

BERLIN, June 24 (By The Associated Press).—Addressing the German National Assembly at Weimar yesterday, Premier Bauer said that a "defeated nation was being violated body and soul to the horror of the world."

"Let us sign," he continued, "but it is our hope to the last breath that this attempt against our honor may one day recoil against its authors."

PARIS, June 24.—The German delegation which will sign the peace treaty will arrive at Versailles on Friday morning, the French Foreign Office has been informed. It is thought probable in French circles that the signing of the treaty will take place at 2 o'clock Friday afternoon.

Hermann Mueller, the new German Foreign Secretary, will head the German delegation to sign the treaty, "La Liberté" says.

The information regarding the time of arrival of the German delegation was made known to Premiers Clemenceau and Lloyd George and to President Wilson while they were at Versailles this afternoon looking over the arrangements for the signature of the treaty.

Wilson Visits Scene
M. Clemenceau and Paul Dutasta, general secretary of the peace conference, drove to the chateau at 2 o'clock, where they were joined by Major General Mordacq, head of the military cabinet of the Ministry of War, and William Martin, chief of protocol. Arthur J. Balfour, the British Foreign Secretary, came twenty-five minutes later, being followed shortly afterward by President Wilson and Baron Sonnino, of the Italian peace delegation.

The party visited the Hall of Mirrors, where the treaty is to be signed. Later they went to the apartment of Louis XIV where M. Clemenceau had an attendant open a window, and the Premier, President Wilson and Mr. Balfour stepped out upon the balcony overlooking the court of honor. A detachment of American soldiers and a crowd of visitors below cheered them enthusiastically.

Later the party visited Congress Hall and the Senate room in the palace and left at 3:40 o'clock for the return trip to Paris.

Original Plans Modified
Plans for the ceremony attending the signature of the treaty were considered by the Supreme Council yesterday. It is known that President Wilson favors making it as simple as is consistent with the nature of the event, and the original plans for the conclusion of "the second peace of Versailles" have been materially modified at his suggestion.

The plenipotentiaries will be seated on a raised dais in the center of the east Hall of Mirrors in the Chateau de Versailles, upon which will be installed the table upon which the treaty will be signed.

Premier Clemenceau will open the ceremonies with a brief introduction. No speech is expected from the Germans. William Martin, of the French Foreign Office, as master of ceremonies, then will carry the treaty to President Wilson and the Premiers, who will sign at their seats.

After the treaty is brought back to the signature table, the names of the other delegates will be called and they will advance and sign.

Many Novel Seals
It is expected that the signing will require two hours. The seals of all the delegates will be affixed in advance. Some of the seals supplied by the delegates are merely monograms inscribed in striking contrast to the elaborate coats of arms supplied by Premier Paderewski, of Poland, and other European officials. The French treaty experts regard the Chinese and Japanese seals as the most artistic. These are chiefly the names of the delegates in Oriental letters, and are adorned with flowers and quaint figures.

The expectation was that strictly personal seals would be used, but, like President Wilson, M. Vandervelde, representing Belgium, is using an official seal—the Belgian coat of arms encircled by the words, "Minister of Justice." The German delegates will sign after the Allies.

The order in which the Allied delegates will sign after the signatures of the President and Premiers are attached, will be according to the alphabetical order of the names of the countries they represent. When the signatures are completed, the entente party will emerge on the terrace at the side of the palace, where all the